

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented) A system for information management, comprising:
a central unit; and

a plurality of user units which are arranged to record and send information to the central unit, wherein particulars are stored in the central unit about a plurality of regions, each of which represents an area on at least one imaginary surface, wherein the imaginary surface represents physical positions in a unique and continuous manner, and represents a physical area which is larger than any single practicable usable surface,

each of the user units is arranged to record information which comprises at least one position on the imaginary surface and to send the information to the central unit, and

the central unit is arranged, in response to the receipt of the information from a user unit, to identify to which region said at least one position belongs and to determine how the information is to be managed based on the region affiliation.

2. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 1, in which for each of said regions particulars are stored in the central unit about an owner of the region.

3. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 1, in which rules for each region are stored in the central unit for how the information which is identified as belonging to the region is to be managed.

4. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 1, in which the central unit is arranged to forward the information which is received from the user unit to a recipient.

5. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 4, in which the recipient is defined by the region affiliation.

6. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 4, in which the recipient is one of said user units.

7. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 4, in which the central unit is arranged to attach a predetermined data packet for the recipient, which data packet is determined by the region affiliation.

8. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 1, in which the central unit is arranged to store the information which is received from the user unit in a location which is indicated by the region affiliation.

9. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 1, in which the central unit is arranged to process the information which is received from the user unit in a way which is defined by the region affiliation.

10. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 1, in which said at least one position is a plurality of positions which define characters and in which the central unit is arranged to convert the received positions to at least one character.

11. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 1, in which each of the user units has a pen point.

12. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 1, in which each of the user units has a unique user identity and is arranged to include the user identity in the information to the central unit.

13. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 1, further comprising a plurality of products from which said at least one position is recorded.

14. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 13, in which a subset of a position-coding pattern, which codes a large number of positions on said imaginary surface is

reproduced on each of said products, the positions which are recorded by the user units being positions on the imaginary surface and being recorded by means of the subset of the position-coding pattern on the product.

15. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 14, in which the position-coding pattern is constructed of symbols and each position on said imaginary surface is coded by a predetermined number of symbols, and in which each user unit is arranged to continually record the symbols to provide a description of the movement in the form of coordinates when it is moved across said subset in order to generate the information.

16. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 1, in which each user unit is arranged to record said information by recording at least two coordinates in coded form for each position, to decode the coded coordinates and to include at least certain of the coordinates in the information to the central unit.

17. (Previously presented) A system for information management, comprising:
a central unit and a plurality of user units which are arranged to record and send information to the central unit; and
a plurality of products each of which has a subset of a position-coding pattern, which codes a large number of positions on at least one imaginary surface, wherein the imaginary surface represents physical positions in a unique and continuous manner, and represents a physical area which is larger than any single practicable usable surface, further wherein
particulars are stored in the central unit about a plurality of regions, each of which represents an area on said imaginary surface, wherein
each of the user units is arranged to record information which comprises at least one position on the imaginary surface by means of the subset of the position-coding pattern on said product, and to send the information to the central unit, and wherein

the central unit is arranged, in response to the receipt of the information from a user unit, to identify to which region said at least one position belongs and to determine how the information is to be managed based on the region affiliation.

18. (Previously presented) A central unit for information management, comprising:
a memory storing particulars about a plurality of regions, each region corresponding to an area on an imaginary surface, wherein the imaginary surface represents physical positions in a unique and continuous manner, and represents a physical area which is larger than any single practicable usable surface, and the memory further containing instructions for
determining, in response to the receipt of information which contains at least one position on the imaginary surface, to which region said at least one position belongs, and determining how the information is to be managed based on the region affiliation.

19. (Previously presented) A central unit according to claim 18, which for each of said regions stores particulars about an owner of the region.

20. (Previously presented) A central unit according to claim 18, which for each of said regions stores rules for how information which is identified as belonging to the region is to be managed.

21. (Previously presented) A central unit according to claim 18, which is arranged to forward the information to a recipient.

22. (Previously presented) A central unit according to claim 18, which is arranged to attach a predetermined file with the information for the recipient, which file is determined by the region affiliation.

23. (Previously presented) A central unit according to claim 18, which is arranged to store the information in a location which is indicated by the region affiliation.

24. (Previously presented) A central unit according to claim 18, which is arranged to process the information in a way which is defined by the region affiliation.

25. (Original) A central unit according to claim 24, which is arranged to convert the received positions into at least one character.

26. (Previously presented) A method for management of information which is recorded using at least one user unit, comprising:

recording information by each user unit which includes at least one position on at least one imaginary surface, wherein the imaginary surface represents physical positions in a unique and continuous manner, and represents a physical area which is larger than any single practicable usable surface;

receiving said information at a central unit, wherein the central unit contains particulars about a plurality of regions, further wherein each region represents an area on the at least one imaginary surface;

identifying, in response to the receipt of the information from the user unit, which region said at least one position belongs; and

determining how to manage the information based on the region affiliation.

27. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 26, in which for each region particulars are stored in the central unit about the owner of the region.

28. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 26, in which for each region rules are stored in the central unit for how the information which is identified as belonging to the region is to be managed.

29. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 26, in which the central unit forwards the information which is received from the user unit to a recipient.

30. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 29, in which the recipient is defined by the region affiliation.

31. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 29, in which the central unit sends the information which is received from the user unit back to the user unit.

32. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 29, in which the central unit attaches a predetermined data packet for the recipient, which data packet is determined by the region affiliation.

33. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 26, in which the central unit stores the information which is received from the user unit in a location which is indicated by the region affiliation.

34. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 26, in which the central unit processes the information which is received from the user unit in a way which is defined by the region affiliation.

35. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 26, in which said at least one position is a plurality of positions which define characters, the central unit converting the received positions to at least one character.

36. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 26, in which each user unit has a unique user identity and includes the user identity in the information which is sent to the central unit.

37. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 26, in which said at least one position is recorded on a product.

38. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 26, in which each of the user units has a pen point which makes a mark on ~~the~~ a product during the recording of said at least one position.

39. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 37, in which the product has a subset of a position-coding pattern which codes a large number of positions on said imaginary surface, the positions which are recorded by the user units being positions on the imaginary surface and being recorded by means of the subset of the position-coding pattern on the product.

40. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 39, in which the position-coding pattern is constructed of symbols and each position on said imaginary surface is coded by a predetermined number of symbols, each user unit, when it is moved across said subset to generate the information, continually recording the symbols to provide a description of the movement in the form of coordinates.

41. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 26, in which the user unit records said information by recording for each position at least two coordinates in coded form, by decoding the coded coordinates and by including at least certain of the coordinates in the information to the central unit.

42. (Previously presented) A storage medium for digital information which is readable by a computer system, in which the storage medium contains a computer program which comprises instructions for causing a processor to determine, in response to the receipt of information which contains at least one position on an imaginary surface, wherein the imaginary surface represents physical positions in a unique and continuous manner, and represents a physical area which is larger than any single practicable usable surface, to which region on the imaginary surface said at least one position belongs, and to determine how the information is to be managed based on the region affiliation.

43-44. (Cancelled)

45. (Previously presented) A method for managing information based upon position associated with a machine-readable code, comprising:

recording information using at least one user unit, wherein the information includes at least one position on a two-dimensional coordinate reference, further wherein the two-dimensional coordinate reference represents physical positions in a unique and continuous manner, and represents a physical area which is larger than any single practicable usable surface;

sending the information to a central unit, wherein the central unit contains particulars about a plurality of regions, and further wherein each region represents an area on the two-dimensional coordinate reference;

identifying which region the at least one position belongs in response to the receipt of the information; and

managing the information based upon rules associated with the identified region, wherein different regions are associated with different rules.

46. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 45, wherein the machine-readable code comprises a plurality of symbols, each symbol contributing to the coding of at least two unique positions on the two-dimensional coordinate reference.

47. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 46, wherein each symbol comprises a nominal position and a mark.

48. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 47, wherein the mark is displaced from the nominal position.

49. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 45, further comprises storing particulars in the central unit which associate an owner with a region.

50. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 45, further comprises forwarding information by the central unit to a recipient.

51. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 45, further comprising storing the information in the central unit in a location specified by the rules.

52. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 45, wherein the information includes a unique user identity associated with the user unit.

53. (Previously presented) An apparatus for managing information based upon machine-readable code associated with products which are not colocated, comprising:

at least one user unit configured to record information including at least one position described in a two-dimensional coordinate reference, further wherein the two-dimensional coordinate reference represents physical positions in a unique and continuous manner, and represents a physical area which is larger than any single practicable usable surface; and

a central unit, configured to receive the information from the at least one user unit, which identifies a region on the two-dimensional coordinate reference based upon the at least one position, and manages the information based upon rules associated with the identified region, wherein different regions are associated with different rules.

54. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 53, wherein the machine-readable code comprises a plurality of symbols, each symbol contributing to the coding of at least two unique positions on the two-dimensional coordinate reference.

55. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 54, wherein each symbol comprises a nominal position and a mark.

56. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 55, wherein the mark is displaced from the nominal position.

57. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 53, wherein the central unit stores particulars which associate an owner with a region.

58. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 53, wherein the central unit forwards information to a recipient.

59. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 53, wherein the central unit stores the information in a location specified by the rules.

60. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 53, wherein the user unit includes a unique user identifier in the information sent to the central unit.

61. (New) A system for information management, comprising:

a central unit; and

a plurality of user units which are arranged to record and send information to the central unit, wherein particulars are stored in the central unit about a plurality of regions, each of which represents an area on at least one imaginary surface, wherein the imaginary surface represents physical positions in a unique and continuous manner, and wherein the physical positions are coded by a position coding pattern and wherein the position coding pattern is incapable of being present in its entirety on any single base,

each of the user units is arranged to record information which comprises at least one position on the imaginary surface and to send the information to the central unit, and

the central unit is arranged, in response to the receipt of the information from a user unit, to identify to which region said at least one position belongs and to determine how the information is to be managed based on the region affiliation.